



GRANITE FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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To our friends and members
throughout the community, state, and across all borders:
"Thank you for your support!"



September 2016 NEWSLETTER

October 3, 2016

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1. Spruced up! - The minor lawn setbacks experienced due to Wabash Avenue improvements have been patched by hydro-seeding, which is now growing well in this cooler and wetter weather. **Cory Wilson** provided 16 hours of community service by trimming plants and trees, weeding garden areas, and providing general outdoor clean-up. A much-needed lawn mowing by **Tom** on September 30 finished off the exterior. The site looks great as we enter Fall and prepare for **Railroad Days** and **Halloween**.

2. Magneto doctor - The magneto doctor in Arlington worked his magic on our hit-and-miss engine's "heart", and the engine is now back in top running condition – ready for ice-cream-making or new bro-mances brought on by its man-magnet sound ([see August newsletter "Magneto mayhem"](#)).

3. Visitors - We had several groups visit during the month of September. Seniors from the [Lake Stevens Assembly of God](#) arrived on September 8 and enjoyed the museum, hosted by **Tom** and **Fred**. On Saturday, September 18, a group of **Boy Scouts** from [Troop 348](#) in **Lake Forest Park** visited with their leaders after getting rained out on a planned camping event. Their hosts at [Paca Pride](#) called to arrange for a docent and the group spent almost two



Lake Stevens Assembly of God seniors pose at the Sharp House

hours looking around. A small group visit was arranged by **Elsie** and **Eldon Kirstein** on Thursday, September 22, and went well. **Duffy** was particularly pleased with the snacks **Eldon** and visitors were carrying in their pockets! A group from [GenCare](#) visited on Friday, September 23, hosted by **Marcia, Robin, and Fred**. While the staff members had

visited before, this was a first-time visit for the residents who participated.

4. LOSCHO proposal rejected - We received official confirmation on September 9 that the **Historic Preservation Commission** selected a proposal from a consultant in Portland to provide the **Snohomish County Historical Asset Inventory**, feeling the proposal from [the League of Snohomish County Heritage Organizations \(LOSCHO\)](#) did not meet the work requirement.

5. Centennial Trail History Walk - [Centennial Trail History Walk](#) went well on Saturday, September 10, with **Tom, Ron, and Fred** staffing displays at the **Machias** trail head.



of the **Centennial** and **Whitehorse Trails**.

Since there is a covered location, it was ideal for our maps, the picture stands, and a few artifacts. Our friends from [Index Historical Society](#) said they also had a very busy day at their display set up at the intersection

6. Zeke's caboose - On September 12, Tom and Ron drove to [Zeke's Drive-In](#) near **Gold Bar** to look at their old **Northern Pacific** caboose. The owner is offering it to the museum through the help of some local railroad buffs, with the thought that it could be restored and used as a **Granite Falls** tourist information building. This idea from a few years ago is supported by the City and Chamber of Commerce and almost came to fruition at that time. An offer to give a local caboose was made known, but then it was rescinded. After discussion at the September Board Meeting, it was decided that Zeke's generous offer could not be pursued at this time.



7. AASLH webinars - On September 15-16, six webinars were broadcast from the [American Association for State and Local History \(AASLH\)](#) national meeting in Detroit.

They covered these topics:
Small Museums, Big Impact!
From Farm to Fork: Narratives that Connect Re-imagining Traditional Museums and Programs
Intentional Inclusion: Developing a D&I Strategy
Deconstructing Safe Space
Strange Love: Stop Worrying and Start Fundraising
Tom and **Fred** attended all sessions except for the fifth. Any of our members can view the recorded sessions,

since a multi-viewer fee was paid by **LOSCHO** specifically for that reason.

8. Historic Property Inventory forms - Fred and our **Intern Emily** finished drafting **Historic Property Inventory (HPI)** forms for historic items across the county. They come with address, parcel number, aerial map, date built, etc., and are ready for completion by local historians, should **LOSCHO** still choose to pursue the historic asset inventory. In the course of **Emily's** museum internship, they were able to create 458 forms for various individual items (buildings, sites, structures), take new pictures of 230+ of those, add historical information and old pictures to 110+, and met any number of historic property owners who loved to talk about their items.

9. Internship complete - Emily completed her internship of September 21, with a perfect attendance record, full mastery of **PastPerfect** museum software and our mapping system, outstanding photographic results from around the county, and a real appreciation for some of the more obscure Snohomish County graveyards, granges, and gables. She came to the General Meeting on Monday, September 26. She spoke about her experiences this summer, then was presented with an external harddrive of the museum mapping system and other historical files, a lifetime membership to the **Granite Falls Historical Society**, a certificate, and a GFHS pen in **UW Husky** purple. She received a warm round of applause and many best wishes for her future ([see August newsletter "Emily the Intern"](#)).



10. LOSCHO quarterly meeting - Tom and **Fred** attended the quarterly meeting of the [League of Snohomish County Heritage Organization \(LOSCHO\)](#), which was held at the new [Marysville Museum](#) on Saturday, September 24. Discussion subjects included recruitment of new Board members and officers for 2017, the strategic plan created last Spring, and the Historic Asset Inventory (i.e. should **LOSCHO** pursue completion of the inventory, knowing the county is contracting with the Portland consultants).

11. Alumni Happy Hour and Comfort Food - Sadly, on September 23, with only one week to go before the **Alumni Happy Hour and Comfort Feed** scheduled for Friday, September 30 at the Museum, only one call had been received to reserve a place. Given the level of uncertainty and inability to estimate the food and drink needed, the event had to be cancelled. The only expense was the \$11 liquor license for that evening. The rental fee deposit given to the Senior Center will be refunded in its entirety since we were able to cancel a week in advance ([see August's newsletter "Railroad and Reunion Days"](#)).

12. Snohomish County LTAC - On Monday, September 26 the [Snohomish County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee \(LTAC\)](#) met to approve the County Tourism Bureau budget. It then met again on Wednesday to discuss grant re-

quests for 2017. The funds are to be used to promote tourism within the county, and were the source for things like our cyber-tours and large granite "welcome" sign coming into town. No applications were received from the museum or other Granite Falls organizations, but ~\$460K was awarded in total.

13. ECO-CAR Hanging - The GFHS Eco-car was suspended above the museum garage by **Fred, Eric Cruger**, and willing museum visitor **Steve Hoidal**, on Tuesday, September 27, just in time for Railroad and Reunion Days!

14. September docents, helpers, and visitors - Many thanks to these members who helped as docents or in other ways during September: **Norma Anderson, Tom Bergan, Scott Bower, Ron Chew, Fred Cruger, Marcia and Eldon Day, Bob and Robin Ingraham, Rosie Miller, Ted and Lonnie Peddycord, Tim Quillen, Gage Quillen, Dee Saunders, John and Barb Scherrer, and Tom Thorleifson**. Omissions are not intentional, and any corrections are welcomed.

In addition, there were 116 visitors from these places: Everett, Granite Falls, Kirkland, Lake Forest Park, Lake Stevens, Monroe, Seattle, Tacoma; Wilkesboro, NC; Sublimity, OR; and from August - - Lima, Peru.

15. Coming events, Odds & Ends - Mark your calendar for these coming events:

Halloween, Monday, October 31, 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

Board and General Meetings, Monday, October 24, 6:00 and 7:00 PM respectively, held at **The Village** dining room (Board meets in the Vitality Room). The meetings have been moved up a week to allow for the evening Halloween festivities on Monday the 31st.

Christmas Tree Lighting, Saturday, December 3, 5:00 PM, with the museum open from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Membership: Do you know anyone interested in becoming a member? It's only \$15 for a single, or \$20 for a family membership!

Docent scheduling for Sundays, noon to 5:00 PM, is a continuous process. We have 28 people who have helped as a docent in the last 12 months. At the September meetings, **Tom** proposed that a person only needs to volunteer about every three months. Signing up for just one Sunday afternoon every three months would reduce the amount of effort and phone calls needed to secure volunteers. And, yes, the rumor is true - - the **Seahawks** are available on TV at the museum! As of now, we are about 75% filled through December. There are just a few spots that are available. We hope to eventually establish a 3-month rotation. Call the museum or email **Marcia** (marciad@irgpt.com) with the dates you can help. You don't need to be an "expert" on things in the museum, and where else can you get a chance to meet people from around Granite Falls, the county, state, nation, and the world in one afternoon?

Board member nominations have started. Every year three board members finish their terms. Time to nominate!

Check out our website: gfhistory.org

Check out our Facebook page at: [Granite Falls Historical Museum](#)